

1907.

Brandon and Byshottles Urban District Council.

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Brandon and Byshottles
Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

At the end of the year 1907, I estimate the population of your district to be 17,750, and in the middle of the year 17,563. The rates in this report are based on the latter number.

257 deaths were registered during the year, being 45 less than in the previous year. 13 of the deaths occurred in public institutions outside the district. The deaths were at the rate of 14·633 per thousand. Those under 5 years of age (118) being at the rate of 6·7 per thousand, and those over 5 years of age (139) at the rate of 7·9 per thousand.

The deaths from Zymotic Diseases (33) were at the rate of 1·8 per thousand of the population. Infant mortality rate 140 per thousand births. This shows marked improvement but is still above the County rate which is 136. The Phthisis death-rate was 1·08 which is also slightly above the County rate. The Respiratory death-rate, excluding Phthisis was 2·50 per thousand. This is below the County rate and shows a marked improvement over last year.

9 Inquests were held and there were 6 uncertified deaths.

618 births were registered during the year, being 50 more than in the previous year, 604 were legitimate, and 14 were illegitimate. The births were at the rate of 35·187 per thousand.

In the following table the rates for your district and for the County of Durham are compared :—

BRANDON AND BYSHOTTLES. COUNTY OF DURHAM.		
Birth-rate	35·187	34·8
Death-rate	14·633	17·0
Zymotic death-rate	1·8	1·98
Infant Mortality rate	140 (per 1000 births)	136 (per 1000 births)
Phthisis death-rate	1·08	·97
Respiratory death-rate (excluding Phthisis)	2·50	3·09

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

36 cases were notified, this being the least number reported during the last sixteen years. For the fifteen previous years the numbers were 142, 140, 167, 86, 213, 246, 129, 94, 92, 89, 142, 318, 376, 323 and 200. Of the 36 cases, 16 were Erysipelas, 9 were Diphtheria, 7 were Enteric Fever, and 4 were Scarlet Fever. The Erysipelas occurred in all the Wards, the Diphtheria in all but the North, the larger number being in the South. The Enteric Fever occurred principally in the East Ward, there were also cases in the North and South Wards. There was not a single case in Brandon Colliery. The Scarlet Fever occurred in all the wards excepting the South. See Table III.

Five cases of Enteric Fever were removed to the Hospital, three from the East Ward and two from the North. These patients all recovered.

The Hospital was empty from the beginning of the year till 2nd March, and from 18th May to 26th November. As in former years infected premises were visited by your Inspector and myself and disinfectants were supplied. 20 houses were stoved.

During the latter part of the year there were a number of cases of Measles in the district, and on that account it was thought advisable to close the Infants' Department of the Waterhouses Council School for three weeks, from September 12th. There were six fatal cases.

In July your Inspector and I visited the cowsheds and dairies in the district, inspecting thirty-four, in which 188 cows were kept. With two or three exceptions they were clean, and the majority had been newly whitewashed. In nine the flooring was bad, while in two or three the drainage was also at fault.

I am still of opinion that all milk cows should be periodically examined by a Veterinary Surgeon, as undoubtedly some of them suffer from Tuberculosis, and are a grave source of danger to the public health, particularly to children who consume a quantity of milk.

On July 1st, it was resolved by your Council to "temporarily include Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis in the list of infectious diseases required to be notified under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act."

No case of this disease has occurred within the district.

In June Dr. Fletcher's Report was received. The Report has received the full consideration of your Council and your officers, and the recommendations therein contained are receiving attention. An answer has been sent to the Board.

With regard to Housing Accommodation in the district, after making a special inspection, a joint report by your Inspector and myself was published in December last. A copy of this was forwarded to the Board. Cases of overcrowding are being dealt with as expeditiously as possible. It will be seen by the report that the housing accommodation is altogether inadequate.

77 new ashclosets of good construction have been erected in the Langley Moor district, 60 in the Brandon, and 42 at New Brancepeth. It is hoped that shortly all the objectionable old structures will be replaced by more sanitary conveniences.

With regard to the drainage of the different villages, nothing further has been done, with the exception of Whitwell Terrace, Langley Moor, where new main sewers have been put in, and the street laid with asphalt. It is proposed shortly to put in 700 yards of new sewers at Brandon Colliery, and to commence with the Brownie Sewage Disposal Works. It is to be hoped your Council will continue with the work of laying their sewers throughout the district until all the existing channels are abolished.

A new secondary filter has been laid down at Littleburn Disposal Works, and is giving very good results.

The lighting of colliery streets in the district has been improved.

88 new houses have been built, 76 of which are occupied.

SCAVENGING.

The ashpit scavenging has been done by contract, and has been in the hands of twelve contractors. With the exception of two districts, the work has been fairly well done. The Waterhouses district has, I regret to say, been very indifferently executed, in consequence of which considerable inconvenience has been experienced. The refuse is deposited on land for manuring purposes, and on the District Council's "Refuse Tips."

The following is a summary of general Sanitary Work done during the year :—

Special visits to premises on complaint or otherwise for the		
detection of nuisances	... ..	560
Informal notices served for the abatement of nuisances	... ..	278
Nuisances abated after notice	... ..	638
Ashpits examined in reference to scavenging	... ..	6977
Notices served upon the Contractors	.. ..	80
Infected premises visited and inspected	... ..	16
Articles of infected bedding disinfected or destroyed	... ..	40
Houses disinfected after infectious disease	... ..	20
House to house inspections <i>re</i> "Overcrowding Report"	... ..	750
Old privy ashpits abolished and new ashclosets substituted	... ..	168
Waterclosets substituted for privy ashpits	... ..	11

The notices served and the nuisances abated have been in reference to dilapidated privy ashpits, dirty and defective cowbyres, defective drainage, defective or unpaved yard premises, foul and structural defects of dwelling-houses, defective drain traps, water supply, overcrowding of dwelling-houses, accumulations and deposits of manure, and other general nuisances.

In seventy instances yard premises have either been repaired or entirely paved with cement concrete. In nine cases defective flooring of cowbyres was found, and notices served upon the owners to lay the floors in concrete. This work is now in progress.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP INSPECTIONS.

During the year all the workshops in the district have been carefully inspected, being twenty-four in number and five factories. Two nuisances were met with, dirty and defective closet accommodation, anent which notices were served and the defects remedied. In two cases no Abstract of the Act was affixed, and Notification of same was forwarded to H.M. Inspector when the matter received attention. There is no home work carried on in the district that has been detected. No overcrowding was met with. Generally the workrooms were found clean and sanitary. The industries observed are chiefly dressmaking, tailoring, shoemaking, millinery, joinery and blacksmithing. The principal workrooms are in connection with the Co-operative Societies at Meadowfield, New Brancepeth and Waterhouses, all of which are in good condition, being practically new places, and afford ample accommodation and conveniences for the employees.

Thirty persons are employed in the workrooms of the Meadowfield Co-operative Society, eight in the New Brancepeth and ten in the Waterhouses. There are five factories in the district, viz. :—Sanitary-pipe and brick making, Aerated Water making and Joinery.

The water supply of the district is good and continuous, being obtained from the Weardale and Consett Water Company. A few isolated places and farm-houses draw their supply from springs.

There are no common lodging-houses, and no tenemented property in the district, and no offensive trades are carried on in it.

On May 17th, a fatal case of Anthrax occurred at one of the farms in the district. The County Constabulary took the matter in hands, and had the animal suitably buried, and the place thoroughly disinfected.

The general health of the district was very good, and the birth-rate, death-rate, and number of infectious diseases very satisfactory.

Appended are the official tables filled in as required, and containing valuable information :—

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

HENRY SMITH, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Durham, 3rd February, 1908.



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URBAN DISTRICT OF BRANDON AND BYSHOTTLES.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES, AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries.)	5	..	Nil.
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries.)	34	2	
Total	39	2	

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.		Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>			
Want of cleanliness	1	1	Nil.
Sanitary accommodation—unsuitable or defective ..	1	1	
Total	2	2	

3.—HOME WORK.

No outwork carried on in District—or found.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
1 Bakehouse in District only	1
Chiefly Dressmaking, Joinery, Boots, Tailoring	22
*Factories	5
Total number of workshops on Register	28

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
<i>Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—</i>	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133) ..	2
Total	2

TABLE I.

Brandon & Byshottles Urban Sanitary District.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1907 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate. *	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate. *
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 births registered.	Number.	Rate. *					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1897 ..	16,145	506	31.34	81	160	218	13.5	..	..	..	..	..
1898 ..	16,426	535	32.5	131	226	269	16.37	.	..	..	..	..
1899 ..	16,700	520	31.13	97	186	253	15.149	..	..	..	..	..
1900 ..	16,934	456	26.928	85	186	274	16.18	..	.	..	..	..
1901 ..	15,573	615	39.491	126	205	281	18.043	..	..	10	291	18.686
1902 ..	15,787	575	36.422	100	148	278	17.609	..	..	11	289	18.306
1903 ..	16,184	583	36.035	91	156	235	13.964	..	..	9	244	14.520
1904 ..	16,600	596	35.951	91	152	268	16.144	7	..	21	289	17.409
1905 ..	16,950	598	35.280	116	193	303	17.875	6	..	10	313	18.466
1906 ..	17,230	568	32.963	112	197	291	16.888	5	..	11	302	17.527
Averages for years 1897 to 1906. }	16,452	555	33.734	103	180	267	16.229	..	..	..	..	..
1907	17,563	618	35.187	87	140	244	13.893	..	..	13	257	14.633

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Total population at all ages	...	15,573	} At Census of 1901.
Number of inhabited houses	...	2,954	
Average number of persons per house	...	5.27	

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) ... 6,683.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

TABLE II.

Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1907 and previous years.

Names of Localities.		1.—EAST WARD.				2 —WEST WARD.				3.—NORTH WARD.				4.—SOUTH WARD.				5.—CENTRE WARD.			
YEAR.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	
	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	
1897	
1898	
1899	
1900	
1901 ..	3542	..	70	..	3094	..	44	..	2452	..	37	..	1984	..	39	..	4501	..	101	..	
1902	77	..	..	..	58	..	..	..	39	..	..	..	36	..	..	..	79	..	
1903	69	..	..	..	40	..	..	..	29	..	..	..	32	..	..	..	65	..	
1904	62	..	..	..	54	..	..	..	38	..	..	..	28	..	..	..	105	..	
1905	62	25	..	..	40	14	..	..	43	14	..	..	37	14	..	..	131	49	
1906	72	22	..	..	32	12	..	..	50	20	..	..	40	14	..	..	108	44	
Averages of years 1897 to 1906.	
1907	74	22	..	..	48	12	..	..	29	9	..	..	29	13	..	..	64	31	

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1907.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.					NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.					
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.											
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	9	1	1	7	2	1	..	4	2
Erysipelas	16	..	1	1	2	12	2	5	3	4	2
Scarlet Fever	4	..	3	1	1	1	1	..	1
Enteric Fever	7	2	2	3	4	..	2	1	..	3	..	2	5
TOTALS	36	1	5	11	4	15	9	7	6	9	5	3	..	2	5

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, death during Year 1907.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS AT THE SURJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.							DEATHS AT ALL AGES OF "RESIDENTS" BELONGING TO LOCALITIES, WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.				
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	East Ward.	West Ward.	North Ward.	South Ward.	Centre Ward.
Measles ..	6	1	4	1	..	..	..	4	1	..	1	..
Whooping Cough ..	13	8	5	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	2	8
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Enteric Fever ..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Epidemic Influenza ..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	1
Diarrhœa ..	5	3	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	4
Enteritis ..	6	5	1	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	2
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	21	..	..	2	4	13	2	6	5	2	3	5
Other Tubercular Diseases	9	4	2	1	1	1	..	3	3	1	1	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	10	..	..	..	..	6	4	3	4	..	1	2
Bronchitis ..	15	5	2	..	..	3	5	3	2	6	2	2
Pneumonia ..	23	12	7	..	..	3	1	12	1	1	4	5
Pleurisy ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	..
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ..	4	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
Premature Birth ..	10	10	..	..	..	..	..	4	2	1	2	1
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition ..	3	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	2
Heart Disease ..	20	..	..	1	2	9	8	5	4	3	3	5
Accidents ..	8	..	3	..	..	4	1	5	..	1	..	2
Suicides ..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Meningitis ..	5	4	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	3
Convulsions ..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1
Debility from Birth ..	5	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	12	..	..	..	..	7	5	3	5	..	1	3
Rheumatism ..	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	1
All other causes ..	68	26	3	3	4	20	12	24	11	13	5	15
All causes ..	257	87	31	12	12	73	42	81	48	31	29	68

TABLE V.

Infant Mortality during the Year 1907.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes.	Certified ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Uncertified ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Common Infectious Diseases.	Measles ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
	Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	4	..	1	..	..	..	1	8
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Diarrhoea, all forms	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
	Enteritis, Musco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis, }	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	5
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh }	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth	..	9	1	1	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
	Congenital Defects	..	7	..	2	..	9	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	11
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1	2	1	1	5	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	2	16
Tuberculous Diseases.	Tuberculous Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
	Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica }	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	4
Other Causes.	Convulsions ..	..	1	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	4
	Bronchitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	5
	Pneumonia ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	1	..	2	1	2	1	1	1	12
	Other Causes ..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
		19	3	4	2	28	5	9	7	5	9	4	4	4	5	1	6	87

Births in the year—legitimate, 604; illegitimate, 14; Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 257;
Population estimated to middle of 1907, 17,563.

